

R E M A R K S

This is in response to the Official Action mailed March 26, 2002, for the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 9, and 12 have been amended as is further discussed below.

The specification has been objected to for not containing an Abstract. Accordingly, an abstract in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b) is attached on a separate sheet hereto. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to disclose that this application is a national phase application of International Application No. PCT/KR99/00101, which was filed on March 4, 1999, which in turn claims priority from Korean Application No. 1998-45699, which was filed on October 29, 1998. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, copies of the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statement, a Form PTO-1449 listing the documents, and the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.7(p) are enclosed.

Claims 5 and 9 have been objected to due to certain informalities. Specifically, the Examiner stated that methyl methacrylate is not a member of the group

of acrylic acid alkylesters. Claims 5 and 9 have been amended to correct this. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the objection to Claims 5 and 9 is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 has been objected due to certain informalities. The Examiner stated that the meaning of the term "refraction coefficient" was unclear and recommended the use of the scientifically accepted term "refractive index." Claim 12 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the objection to Claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,767,833 to Yumoto *et al.* in combination with JP 56-41216. The Examiner states that Yumoto *et al.* discloses a transparent, thermoplastic resin composition obtained by graft polymerizing 50-95 parts by weight of a monomer mixture consisting essentially of methyl methacrylate and styrene in the presence of 5-50 parts of a rubbery substance which comprises (A) 40-80% by weight of "small aperture" styrene-butadiene copolymer latex and (B) 20-60% by weight of "large aperture" styrene-butadiene copolymer latex. The styrene:methyl methacrylate ratio is 20-55:30-60. The Examiner acknowledges that Yumoto *et al.* does not teach a polybutadiene latex. However, the Examiner takes the position that JP 56-41216 teaches the interchangeability of polybutadiene and styrene-butadiene in the context of transparent thermoplastic resins, and that therefore it would have been obvious in view of the teachings of JP 56-41216 to replace the styrene-butadiene latex of Yumoto *et al.* with polybutadiene to obtain the present invention.

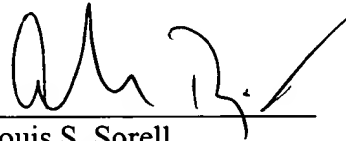
However, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-12 are nonobvious and patentable in view of Yumoto et al. in combination with JP 56-41216. Replacement of styrene-butadiene with polybutadiene rubber is known to result in an improvement of transparency and of shock resistance at low temperature, as shown in Bucknall, C. B., *"Toughened Plastics,"* Applied Science Publishers Ltd., London, p. 296, enclosed in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith. However, the use of polybutadiene rubber is well-known in the art to lead to difficulties in maintaining the viscosity at low values, as shown in the Table titled "Asahi's Synthetic Rubber " in *Asahi's Synthetic Rubber for HIPS, MBS, and Mass-ABS, Asahi Kasei Corporation,* and the Table titled "Bayer BR/BL/SL Product Range: Plastic Grades" in *Bayer Buna CB-Buna BL-Taktene,* enclosed in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith, which show that both the Mooney viscosity (ML) and the solution viscosity (SV) of polybutadiene rubber are higher than the corresponding viscosities of styrene-butadiene rubber. Accordingly, given the known difficulties in maintaining the viscosity of polybutadiene rubber at low values, it would not have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art to obtain the resin of the present invention, which has high resistance to shocks and excellent transparency, by replacing styrene-butadiene with polybutadiene. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 and 8 (and all the claims ultimately dependent thereon) are nonobvious and patentable in view of Yumoto et al. in combination with JP 56-41216. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of Claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

PATENT

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.”**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims in this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louis S. Sorell', is written over a horizontal line.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**In the Abstract:**

Please insert after page 21 the Abstract attached on a separate sheet hereto.

In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 after the title:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a national phase application of International Application No. PCT/KR99/00101, which was filed on March 4, 1999 and which published in English on May 11, 2000, which in turn claims priority from Korean Application No. 1998-45699, which was filed on October 29, 1998.

In the Claims:

Claims 5, 9, and 12 have been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) The resin composition of claim 1 wherein the methacrylic acid alkylester compound [and the acrylic acid alkylester compound are] is methylmethacrylate.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the methacrylic acid alkylester compound [and the acrylic acid alkylester compound are] is methylmethacrylate.

12. (Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein in step c), a total [refraction coefficient] refractive index of the compound, excluding the polybutadiene rubber latex, is between 1.510 and 1.526.